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WPI Acc No: 1987-315549/ 198745

Formation and reading of optically scanned codes - using catadioptric surface to form optically coded markings producing reflections close to

axis of incident light

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Number of Countries: 001 Number of Patents: 001

Patent Family:

Patent No Kind Date Applicat No Kind Date Week

FR 2594982 A 19870828 FR 862375 A 19860221 198745 B

Priority Applications (No Type Date): FR 862375 A 19860221

Patent Details:

Patent No Kind Lan Pg Main IPC Filing Notes

FR 2594982 A 14

Abstract (Basic): FR 2594982 A

The optically scanned surfaces carry code marks made up of catadioptric markings (14) formed from a commercially available adhesive material. The material exhibits the catadioptric property of reflecting an incident ray within a narrow cone aligned with the angle of incidence of the incident light.

The surface carrying the codes is illuminated (3) with incident rays of light (16) which lie as close as possible to the optical axis (18) of the optical detector (4), usually a camera. The optical axis of the detector is in the cone of reflection (17) of the incident light rays and the surface is scanned by sweeping the light source.

ADVANTAGE - Permits reduction of illumination power in reading optical code. Improved reading reliability.